

I am very concerned about Sinclair Broadcasting's plan to require their local stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary during the last few days leading up to a national election. Broadcast station owners use the airwaves for free, but only in exchange for carrying an obligation to serve the public interest. Advocating for a political candidate favored by the station owner, at the expense of another candidate is clearly incompatible with this mandate.

Sinclair plans to air a documentary which clearly smears one candidate, while offering nothing else to counterbalance the message they send their viewers, and this violates both the letter and spirit of "equal time" provisions for political coverage. The public property of the national airwaves must not be used for one-sided political advocacy, and Sinclair should be warned not to do this, and reprimanded (or have their license revoked) if they insist on doing so.